



FINAL PROGRAM

## Commodity Flow Survey Workshop

November 16, 2010

The Keck Center of the National Academies  
Washington, D.C.



*Organized by*  
Transportation Research Board

*Supported by*  
Research and Innovative Technology Administration  
Bureau of Transportation Statistics

[www.trb.org/Conferences/CFS2010.aspx](http://www.trb.org/Conferences/CFS2010.aspx)

### Planning Team

Bruce Lambert, Institute for Trade and Transportation Studies, *Chair*  
John Barrett, IHS Global Insight  
Scott Drumm, Port of Portland  
Ronald Duych, RITA–Bureau of Transportation Statistics  
John Frittelli, Congressional Research Service  
Donna Hambric, Census Bureau  
Kathleen L. Hancock, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University  
Donald B. Ludlow, Cambridge Systematics, Inc.  
Rolf R. Schmitt, Federal Highway Administration  
Joy Sharp, RITA–Bureau of Transportation Statistics  
Thomas M. Palmerlee, Transportation Research Board

## An Invitation to Join the Dialogue

The Commodity Flow Survey (CFS) workshop will facilitate a discussion of experiences among CFS users and serve as a forum on future improvements. Issues of interest include the following:

- Impacts of changes in transportation services and practices on the CFS;
- Improvements and methodological changes that can be implemented in the near term to improve the CFS;
- CFS support for the development of performance measures; and
- Future evolution of the CFS.



Lambert

Experienced users of the CFS and derivative products and applications, such as the Freight Analysis Framework (FAF), should join the dialogue on improving the next survey.

—Bruce Lambert  
*Workshop Planning Team Chair*  
*Institute for Trade and Transportation Studies*

## Session Information

**Tuesday, November 16, 2010**

7:30 a.m.–8:30 a.m.

### Breakfast

8:30 a.m.–10:00 a.m.

### Opening Session

Bruce Lambert, Executive Director, Institute for Trade and Transportation Studies, *presiding*

#### Understanding Freight Transportation and the Role of CFS

Peter Appel, Administrator, Research and Innovative Technology Administration

#### The Role of CFS in Understanding the U.S. Economy

Thomas L. Mesenbourg, Jr., Deputy Director, U.S. Census Bureau

#### Summary of the Results of the 2005 TRB CFS Conference

Kathleen L. Hancock, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

#### What's New With the 2007 CFS

Ronald Duych, RITA–Bureau of Transportation Statistics

#### Workshop Charge

Bruce Lambert, Executive Director, Institute for Trade and Transportation Studies

10:00 a.m.–10:30 a.m.

### Break

November 16, 2010



10:30 a.m.–noon

### **Panel on Content and Uses**

Joy Sharp, RITA–Bureau of Transportation Statistics, *presiding*

#### **Panelists**

Daniel F. Beagan, Cambridge Systematics, Inc.

Rolf R. Schmitt, Federal Highway Administration

- Gain a better understanding of the core items in the CFS, how survey content has changed over the years, and identify possible new areas of information gathering in future collections;
- In view of new DOT goals and reauthorization legislation, identify potential CFS questions that could be of benefit in assisting DOTs and policy makers in developing performance measures or answering new policy questions; and
- To understand the changing complexity of freight transportation logistics, identify areas that might require revision, updating, or—offer an opportunity to collect new data.

Noon–1:00 p.m.

### **Poster Session with Lunch**

#### **Development of Statewide Freight Plan for Alabama Using Integrated Freight Planning Framework**

Michael Anderson and Gregory Harris, University of Alabama

#### **Validating Commodity Flow Survey (CFS) with Transearch**

Paul Ciannavei, IHS Global Insight

#### **Impact of CFS in Supply-Chain Models for Freight Planning**

Chris Dehaan, Subhro Mitra; and Poyraz Kayabas, North Dakota State University

#### **CFS Findings in FAF2.2 Results and FAF3 Update for Phase 2 of the I-70 Dedicated Truck Lanes Project**

Brad Digre, Mark Berndt, and Paul Bingham, Wilbur Smith Associates

#### **2007 CFS Hazardous Materials Report Highlights**

Ronald Duych, Chester Ford, and Hossain Sanjani, U.S. Department of Transportation, Research and Innovation Technology Administration, Bureau of Transportation Statistics

#### **Using Aggregated Federal Data to Model Freight in a Medium-Size Community**

Gregory Harris and Michael Anderson, University of Alabama

#### **Freight Knows No Bounds—The Issue of Cross-Border Metro Areas and the Accuracy of Freight Activity Data**

Derek Jaeger, Port of Portland

#### **Freight Data Architecture Application at Local Level Using CFS Data**

Catherine Lawson, State University of New York, Albany; and Sreekumar Nampoothiri, Capital District Transportation Committee

#### **How to Use and Improve Commodity Flow Databases in National Supply Chain Model**

Qing Liu, North Dakota State University

#### **Improvements to 2007 CFS Data Quality: Mileage Estimation of Shipping Distances**

Michael Margreta, U.S. Department of Transportation, Research and Innovation Technology Administration, Bureau of Transportation Statistics

#### **SHRP 2 Project C20: Freight Demand Modeling and Data Improvement Strategic Plan**

David Plazak, Transportation Research Board, SHRP 2; and Keith Chase, Gannett Fleming, Inc.

November 16, 2010



### **Integrating Freight Considerations in Highway Capacity Planning**

David Plazak, Transportation Research Board, SHRP 2; and Donald Ludlow, Cambridge Systematics, Inc.

### **Overview of the FAF3 Freight Flow Matrix Construction Process**

Michael Sprung, U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highways Administration; and Frank Southworth and Bruce Peterson, Oak Ridge National Laboratory

1:00 p.m.–2:30 p.m.

#### **Panel on Scope, Classification, and Geography**

Ronald Duych, RITA–Bureau of Transportation Statistics, *presiding*

#### **Panelists**

Gregory A. Harris, University of Alabama, Huntsville  
Frank Southworth, Oak Ridge National Laboratory

- Identify any gaps or inaccuracies that currently exist in the scope, geography, and classification systems of the CFS and propose solutions to address them;
- Determine what operational aspects of current transportation and logistical practices are affecting the scope, geography, and classification of the CFS and how we can better understand them in the next cycle; and
- Determine what modifications can be implemented to the CFS scope, geography, and classification systems to better use CFS in performance measures and other quantitative metrics being proposed and developed to measure the effectiveness and justify transportation programs.

2:30 p.m.–3:00 p.m.

#### **Break**

3:00 p.m.–4:30 p.m.

#### **Panel on Product Tools and Functionality**

John Frittelli, Congressional Research Service, *presiding*

#### **Demonstration of CFS Products**

Donna Hambric and Andrew Hait, Census Bureau

- Determine which predefined 2007 tools and functionality are the most useful and how the tools and functionality should be changed for the 2012 CFS;
- Determine which American FactFinder 2007 tools and functionality are the most useful and how the tools and functionality should be changed for the 2012 CFS; and
- Determine how the organization of data should be modified. Was the 2007 organization useful? Is more or is less consolidation needed? In 1997 and 2002 CFS estimates were disseminated in more than 400 files. In 2007 the number of files has been consolidated to 42. For example, national, regional, divisional, state, and metro areas were consolidated into one file for each topic.

4:30 p.m.–5:30 p.m.

#### **Closing Session**

Bruce Lambert, Executive Director, Institute for Trade and Transportation Studies, *presiding*

#### **Key Points from the Panels**

Donald B. Ludlow, Cambridge Systematics, Inc.

#### **CFS Sponsor Remarks**

Mark E. Wallace, Chief, Service Sector Statistics Division of the Census Bureau; and Robert L. Bertini, Deputy Administrator, Research and Innovative Technology Administration

## **THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES™**

*Advisers to the Nation on Science, Engineering, and Medicine*

The nation turns to the National Academies—National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering, Institute of Medicine, and National Research Council—for independent, objective advice on issues that affect people's lives worldwide.

[www.national-academies.org](http://www.national-academies.org)

TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD  
OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES

500 Fifth Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001  
[www.TRB.org](http://www.TRB.org)